



HPS Community Compass

MINUTE

A MINUTE TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE **Hull Public Schools**

Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME 1/ISSUE 3
April 2023

Dates to Remember

April 2023

7 No School

10 School Committee
Meeting 6:30 pm

17 - 21 April Vacation

24 School Committee
Meeting 6:30 pm

26 Jacobs Early Release
Teacher Collaboration
12:15 pm

May 2023

16 Reconfiguration
Presentation Jacob
Families

24 Jacobs Early Release
Teacher Collaboration
12:15 pm

29 Memorial Day -
No School



Hull Pirate Pride - Together We Make A Difference

Thoughtful and strategic planning for a successful implementation of Phase One in the fall of 2023 is in full swing.

The grade 6 team and Middle School specialists have participated in tours and planning sessions already. All involved are impressed with the positive collaboration and team building among the grade 6 team, Middle School specialists, and Principal Shaw. New furniture, lockers, and Smartpanels have been ordered and moving plans are in place.

The Jacobs' faculty and staff have also shown enthusiastic involvement. The energy in the building is amazing as everyone works together to purge, organize, and prepare to move classrooms at the end of the year.

To date, we have extended communication to families of rising 5th, 6th, and 7th graders and held well-attended presentations for rising 5th grade parents/guardians and a Brewing Conversation session. Coming up on May 16, at 6:00 pm in the Jacobs Library, Principal Shaw and I will present an update on the changes specific to the Jacobs School for parents/guardians.

As always, we are committed to a productive exchange of respectful communication among all involved. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. ~ Judy Kuehn

District Calendar of School Events

Each school calendar has been linked to the District Event Calendar to streamline communication of school events for families. Continue to check your students school calendars for school specific information.

[Link to District Calendar of Events](#)





Community of Respect and Kindness

Spring is an exciting time in our schools, filled with field trips, athletic events, drama and music performances, graduation festivities, and transitions to the next grade or building. Our students are creating memories they will hold for a lifetime. Together, as a respectful community of educators and families, let's support each other on behalf of our students as they move through these milestones. Let's model and teach appropriate ways to celebrate. Let's model and teach ways to handle transitions that can bring both feelings of joy and anxiety. Let's model and teach effective and collaborative ways to handle disappointment or frustration. And most of all, let's show our students that they are surrounded by trusted adults who care for them and want nothing less for them than true success. Together we are stronger! -District Leadership Team

"Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you."

- Robert Fulghum, author of *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*

ATHLETICS

Beginning this spring at Hull High School, we will have a number of new procedures and systems in place to help enhance our student athletes' overall athletic experience. Included will be a Code of Conduct for parents/guardians, pre-season coaches meetings between coaches and the Athletic Director, and a mandatory Sports Night for each season. During our Sports Night, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to review the Code of Conduct and speak with the coaches, athletic director, athletic trainer, and other parents/guardians of that season.

Why have a parent meeting?

1. Provide advance communication that is timely and upbeat.
2. Explain how parents/guardians are leaders and need to lead from the stands.
3. Distribute and explain expectations and consequences.
4. Have students explain what is proper conduct.
5. Review the privileges and disciplines of athletics.
6. Have all students and parents sign a Code of Conduct.



These are all aimed towards the ultimate goal of providing the most beneficial years of athletics at Hull High School for every student athlete. The Code of Conduct for the parents will touch on things such as, our Pirate philosophy, respect, coach communication guide, and expectations of parents/guardians while attending Hull High School athletic events. The goal for our Sports Night is to review the Code of Conduct, gather information for the upcoming season, and discuss travel, schedule, and outlook on the year.

Here are our tentative dates for the 2023-2024 Hull High Sports Nights:

Fall – Meeting Date: Monday, August 14, 2023

Winter – Meeting Date: Monday, November 13, 2023

Spring – Meeting Date: Monday, March 11, 2024

We hope to continue receiving such amazing support from our community! Our student athletes have worked so hard, and continue to do so both in the classroom and on the playing field. I look forward to enhancing the athletic experience for our students and partnering with you moving forward. GO PIRATES! ~ Connor Duhaime



Elementary Literacy Curriculum Review Update

Our first pilot with Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (*CKLA*) curriculum materials wrapped up on March 3. The five-week pilot allowed teachers and students to experience the curriculum materials. While teaching with the *CKLA* materials, teachers used a rubric to analyze and record their feedback. Because students' voice is important at all levels, our Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Christine Cappadona, first-grade teacher Lindsey Rajan, and Special Educator Emily Rosado visited classrooms to survey students about what they liked and disliked about *CKLA*. Our literacy committee met to review the data collected, ask questions, and share the strengths and challenges of the *CKLA* curriculum. The same process is now being closely followed with our second curriculum pilot, using McGraw-Hill Education, *Wonders*. Teachers received training during our early release on March 8 and have used *Wonders* for the past four weeks. This second pilot wraps up this Friday, April 14. Following the April vacation, our literacy committee will work to reach a consensus. While both materials being "tested" are high quality and fully aligned to the state standards, we are identifying the best match for our students and teachers. We will continue to update families with our process.

Hull Public Library Spring Offerings!

April Book Clubs

The middle school book club will meet Thursday, April 13 at 4 PM. There will be no set book for this month, just come and talk about any book you've loved and want to recommend! Or to get recommendations from your friends!

The YA book club will meet Thursday, April 27 at 6 PM. This will follow the same format – no set book, but come with some recommendations you've loved or are looking for!

Upcoming Events

There will be an all ages wind chime making drop-in craft Saturday, April 15 from 10:30-1:30. There will be a teen 3-D string art lantern craft on Saturday April 29 at 11 AM. Please check the calendar on the Hull Public Library website!

Looking forward

We will be having lots of summer events coming in July and August! Dog shows, puppets, music, magic and more! Keep your eyes peeled on the website for the launch of the summer program schedule (coming soon!)



Families with MassHealth Need to Renew Coverage:

Families with MassHealth need to renew their coverage this year in order to maintain coverage. Coverage protections put in place during the pandemic will end soon, and MassHealth will return to standard annual eligibility renewal processes.

Please help inform MassHealth families that they need to take the following steps:

- **Update contact information** – make sure MassHealth has their most up-to-date address, phone number, and email so they do not miss important information and notices about what else is needed.
- **Report household changes** to make sure MassHealth knows about any changes in their household, like a new job, address, changes to income, disability status, or pregnancy.

More information is available on the [MassHealth's Redetermination website](#), and school leaders can help spread the word with this [Redetermination flyer](#), [poster](#), and [toolkit](#).

FY24 Budget Priorities

The budget priorities for FY24 have been linked to the District's strategic plan and to the funding source. Use this link to access the presentation.

Recent Competitive Grant Awards

SOA Evidence-Based Practice Grant

Funding for FY24 and FY25 salary for full-day integrated preschool teacher

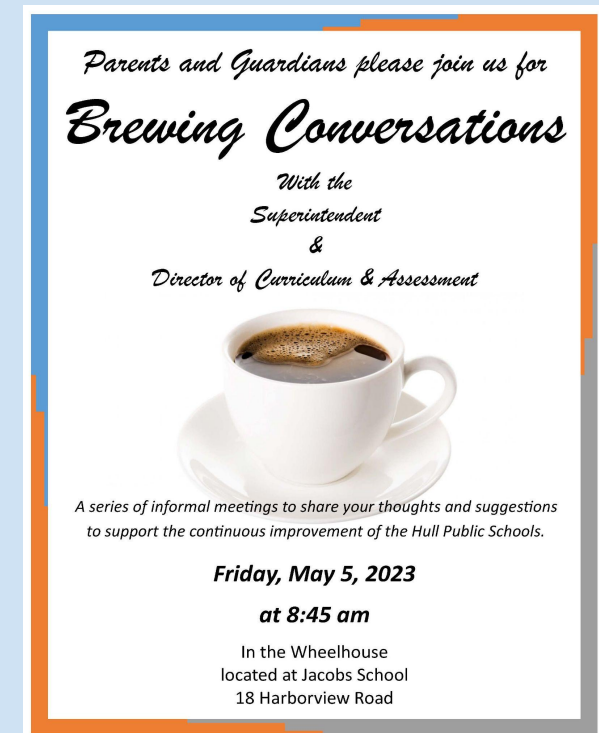
STOP the Violence Grant

Funding for extended training in Comprehensive School Threat Assessment and for a consultant to assist with update of school emergency manuals



Communication

The next Brewing Conversations will be held on Friday, May 5 @ 8:45 am at Jacobs School



Click picture to view flyer

DARE Camp 2023

The Hull Police Department is proud to announce that, from July 24-28, we will be participating in the Plymouth County Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education (DARE) Summer Program. The Plymouth County DARE Summer Program is a great opportunity for children entering grade five or six throughout Plymouth County to make their summer a fun learning experience.

Sponsored by the District Attorney's Office and the Plymouth County Drug Education/School Resource Officers, the program is a one-of-a-kind experience that blends cultural diversity, education, and fun. The program is offered free of charge. Students spend the week learning skills to resist alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, and violence. They are surrounded by positive role models who are committed to making the experience as rewarding as possible.

[Click here for more information](#)

THANK YOU

Extending a heartfelt thank you to Elaine Menice for serving as the Jacobs School Interim Assistant Principal for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Elaine took the position at a time in which stability and positivity were needed most, and she has done an exceptional job. She will continue to serve as the Interim Assistant Principal through the remainder of the school year. In the fall, Elaine will return to her position as a special education teacher, where she will continue to serve the students and families of Hull at the highest level. Elaine's years of hard work and dedication to the Hull Public Schools is deeply appreciated!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Lindsey Rajan for her appointment as the new Assistant Principal of the Jacobs School beginning July 1, 2023. ([Click here to read more](#))

Did You Know?

Jacobs Elementary School

Next Wednesday, April 12, the 5th grade Student Council will host our annual **Jacobs Has Talent** show. This is the first since 2019! The show will consist of a variety of acts performed by students in grades 3-5 and will also include some comedic conversation the Student Council has prepared. The money raised at this event will go directly to the Student Council and their visions for improving the recess experience for all students. All families are welcome to the show. You will not be disappointed!

[Click here to view the flyer](#) ~ Kyle Shaw, Principal

Memorial Middle School

Over the years, I have reached out to parents/guardians to ask for your assistance with issues related to how students use technology and the internet. In the past I have reached out about the dangers of social media challenges such as the milk crate challenge or the tide pod challenge. Another issue that resurfaces from time to time is the use of anonymous communication apps such as Discord, Yik Yak, Holla, or Meetme and the poor decisions that students sometimes make with what they choose to post.

There are two results that may occur when students use technology/ internet for these purposes. Students can hurt themselves physically when performing social media challenges or they may harm themselves or others with the anonymous communications apps and the information or media they choose to post.

Below are two websites to support conversations about internet safety. The first site offers introductory tips to help parents start conversations with their children. The second site is comprehensive, covering a wide range of topics. The third site offers information about bullying including cyberbullying, a common result when students use anonymous communication apps.

Link: From the office of the Attorney General: [Click HERE](#)

Link: From the US Department of Education: [Click HERE](#)

Link: From the US Department of Health and Human Services: [Click HERE](#)

Should you need any assistance helping your child with their use of technology, please do not hesitate to contact me.

~ Anthony Hrivnak, Principal



Hull High School

The dangers of AI use by students

AI, or artificial intelligence, is rapidly becoming a part of our everyday lives. While it can be beneficial in certain areas, there are some risks involved when it comes to students using AI to write their papers. In this blog post, we will explore the dangers of AI-written papers and why students should avoid using AI to write their papers. We will look at potential issues such as plagiarism, lack of creativity, and the lack of the ability to think critically. By the end of this blog post, readers will have a better understanding of why using AI to write papers should be avoided.

AI-written papers are becoming increasingly popular among students who are looking for an easy way to get their academic assignments done quickly. While AI can be a useful tool in certain situations, it's important to consider the potential consequences of using AI to write your school papers.

One of the biggest dangers of AI-written papers is that they lack the individual perspective and critical thinking skills that are required for a successful paper. AI-written papers tend to follow a formulaic approach that may not take into account the nuances of the topic being discussed. Furthermore, AI-written papers lack the creativity and thoughtfulness that is required to convey an argument effectively.

Additionally, AI-written papers may also lead to a decrease in student learning and studying. Since AI-written papers are generally easier to complete than traditional essays, students may be less likely to invest the time and effort necessary to gain a deeper understanding of their subject matter. As a result, their knowledge and understanding of the topic may be less than what it would have been if they had written the paper themselves.

Finally, AI-written papers may also create a risk of plagiarism. While AI programs can identify words and phrases from online sources, they cannot determine if those words have been properly cited or attributed. This means that AI-written papers may contain plagiarized content without the student even realizing it, which could lead to significant consequences for the student.

In light of these risks, it's important for students to consider all of the potential consequences of using AI-written papers before deciding to use them for their academic assignments.

The above five paragraphs were generated in less than 1 minute utilizing an AI blog-writing website! The website only needed a topic sentence and several keywords in order to complete five paragraphs in a matter of seconds! The writing can be identified as AI-generated and in almost every single case, teachers can identify the lack of "student voice." I hope this short experiment alerts you of yet another new technology available to our students that has many hidden dangers pertaining to the learning and development of our children.

-Mike Knybel, Principal